

The paper of the evening was then read by Dr. Geo. W. Dufficy, title "Surgical Hints." The discussion was formally opened by Drs. Cox and James and then became general.

E. M. WILDER, Secretary.

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY MEDICAL SOCIETY.

The twenty-second regular semi-annual meeting of this very thriving Society was held at Fresno, October 9, 1906, and a very excellent program was presented to those in attendance.

The newly-elected officers are: President, Dr. C. T. Rosson of Hanford; Vice-President, Dr. W. W. Cross of Visalia; Secretary, re-elected, Dr. D. H. Trowbridge of Fresno.

The papers presented, most of which will appear in the "State Journal," were as follows:

"A United Medical Profession," W. E. Lilley, M. D., Merced; "Treatment of Umbilical Hernia," A. W. Morton, M. D., San Francisco; "Anesthetics and Anesthesia," C. T. Rosson, M. D., Hanford; "Tetanus—Report of a Case," A. H. Taylor, M. D., Fresno; "Cause of Gall Stones," A. B. Cowan, M. D., Fresno; "Treatment of Gall Stones," J. L. Maupin, M. D., Fresno; "Treatment of Fracture of Lower Jaw," W. W. Cross, M. D., Visalia; "Operations on Thyroid Gland," Wallace I. Terry, M. D., San Francisco; "Exhibition of Strabismus Cases," D. H. Trowbridge, M. D., Fresno.

PUBLICATIONS.

Consumption: Its Relation to Man and His Civilization. Its Prevention and Cure. By John H. Huber. Published by J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, 1906.

The above named work by Dr. J. H. Huber has been reviewed with great interest. The subject-matter is of vital interest to both physician and layman, taking up as it does the sociological and humanitarian aspects of the subject. It does this in a concise yet exhaustive manner and appeals particularly to the interest of the layman, for as the author states, "Medical science cannot cope alone and unaided with this difficult and prodigious world-problem." It would be impossible within the limits of a brief review to adequately place before the readers of the "Journal" anything like a satisfactory description of the book, for every one of the fifteen chapters, whether devoted to the scientific aspects of the subject, or to the economic, legislative or humanitarian phases, is replete with material which should engage the attention of every thoughtful reader, if progress is to be made toward the eradication of this scourge. Considerable space is devoted to sanatoria, to their construction and functions, and descriptions of many of the more important ones both in this country and abroad, are given. The author draws a graphic word picture of the extent to which phthisiophobia has run riot. Much needless suffering has unquestionably been caused because of the hysterical and foolish efforts to isolate the consumptive as one dangerous to the welfare of the public. This groundless fear is even present where one should least suspect its presence. For instance, in one of the best equipped sanatoria in England (which, by the way, the author has not mentioned in his list of English sanatoria), the chapel in connection therewith has a separate entrance and separate pews for the patients!

An interesting chapter is devoted to the work being done by dispensaries, a work which should be taken up and diligently carried on in all cities. The tenement house question is of special interest and should engage the attention of those interested in the upbuilding of San Francisco. The work of the New York Tenement House Commission is reviewed and is emphasized by illustrations taken from the exhaustive report of that body. The en-

tire book is profusely illustrated and is probably the most satisfactory and complete work dealing with these different features of this great problem which has yet appeared.

G. H. E.

SUPRAPUBIC PROSTATIC ENUCLEATION.

E. Hurry Fenwick, London, Eng. (Journal A. M. A., October 13), thinks that our present technic in suprapubic prostatic enucleation tends (1) to the destruction of the vesical orificial ring; (2) to the wholesale destruction of the prostatic urethra with its afferent seminal ducts; (3) to the rough handling of the membranous urethra. No matter, he says, how the operation is carried out, the original vesical orifice must be left intact and covered with its own mucous membrane. A neglect of this rule in a certain proportion of cases will leave the patient with a warped or narrowed vesical orifice and its attendant evils. Unless there is enough intravesical projection to afford spare mucous membrane to replace that destroyed, such will be the case. To avoid this he has successfully grafted in portions of a sheep's urethra and reports a case in which this was done. He suggests that if a medium of large projecting lateral lobe is present, that it be separately enucleated by an antero-posterior incision, and that the rest of the prostate be removed by an operation described by him in 1904, in which he starts the separation from the prostatic urethra. The forefinger is inserted into the prostatic urethra up to the first joint, the point of the finger is then bent and plunged sideways through the mucous membrane, which in the soft elastic prostate gives readily before the pressure. At once the finger finds itself between the tough capsule of the prostate and the contained adenomatous masses; traveling on without much opposition, the entire lobe is enucleated and generally stripped off the urethra. Great care is taken to keep the floor of the urethra intact and attached to its bed. Usually the adhesions of the lateral walls of the urethra and the lateral lobe are very dense; that part of the canal comes away with the lobe, but the floor is preserved. The lobe is now gently detached from the triangular ligament, so as not to tear or bruise the membranous urethra, and being free, it is pushed or pulled into the bladder; the opposite lobe is treated in a similar way. The finger finally smooths down the mucous membrane in the prostatic urethra, leaving the vesical opening clear and free from projecting tags. It heals by the structure being lined with part of the original prostatic urethra. Fenwick emphasizes the importance of not destroying the ejaculatory ducts, and also of not injuring the membranous urethra in separating the anterior face of the prostate from the face of the triangular ligament. As this is in the future true sphincter of the bladder after prostatic enucleation, it should be very gently and cautiously handled. The article is illustrated.

ALPHA OMEGA ALPHA.

A chapter of this honor medical society has recently been established in the Medical Department of the University of California. Chapters exist in the University of Illinois, University of Chicago, Northwestern University, Western Reserve University, Jefferson Medical College, University of Pennsylvania, Washington University, Harvard University and Johns Hopkins University.

The members of the California chapter are Drs. Morrow, D'Ancona, von Hoffman, Kerr, Sherman, Huntington, Moffitt, Montgomery, Taylor, Terry, Lewitt, Ebright and Blumer; of the class of '06, Drs. Hayes, Temple, Eidenmuller, Dannenbaum and Adler; and of the class of '07, Messrs. Clark, Alexander and Allen and Miss Paroni.